

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

Content Warnings

- Blood
- Alcohol
- Loss of consciousness
- Innuendo
- Physical violence & murder
- Discussions of: robbery, worker mistreatment/oppression
- Mentions of: food, knives & guns
- SFX: horses & crickets, background chatter & music. Smashing, sucking, biting

[Show Theme - Intro]

THE ETERNAL TAVERN KEEPER

Rusty Quill presents Chapter and Multiverse.

[SFX: Tavern ambience]

Ah, lovely to see you again. I do enjoy these little chats of ours. Oh, of course, I promised to tell you more about those “Vampire Cowboys”, didn’t I? Well, after encountering a band of werewolves who needed the blood of a vampire for their supposed lycanthropy cure, they decided to set off for the town of Chapter. Their mission? To find a despicable man by the name of Jedediah

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

Fenton, turn him into a vampire and hand him over to the werewolves. But of course, these carefully laid plans rarely go as one might expect...

[SFX: Sci-Fi Whoosh]

MADDY

Hello and welcome to Chapter and Multiverse the actual play podcast where we explore the same city across multiple parallel universes. I am your gamemaster Maddy Searle, pronouns she/her and today we will be continuing our one shot of Vampire Cowboys a game hacked by myself from Lasers and Feelings by John Harper with some inspiration from Dead Channel by Grant Howitt thrown in and before we go any further I should introduce our wonderful and talented players, starting off with Lowri. Could you please tell me your name, your pronouns and your character and their pronouns?

LOWRI

Hello I am Lowri Ann Davies pronouns she/her and I am playing Choo Choo Strongstart also she/her.

MADDY

Wonderful.

HELEN

That's still funny!

LOWRI

I'm a train robber and I really want to drink blood but I just can't face it.

(Laughter)

MADDY

And Helen?

HELEN

Hi I am Helen, my pronouns are she/he and they and my character is called Squishy Chewing and their pronouns are they/them and they are -

LYDIA

Dagnabbit!

HELEN

- a very old vampire who does not have an American accent because I can't do American accents.

LYDIA

Maybe they are older than America?

HELEN

I think that's yeah that's what I'm going with, that's what I'm absolutely going with.

MADDY

Nice and Lydia?

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LYDIA

Hi I'm Lydia pronouns they/she and I am playing Gunbo Baggins who is charming despite all evidence and likes Guns.

MADDY

And what are Gunbo's pronouns?

LYDIA

Oh he and him.

MADDY

Fabulous, and Ben?

BEN

Yeah I'm Ben Meredith, pronouns he/him and I'm playing Cigar Lionel.

MADDY

Wonderful.

LYDIA

Which is a deep cut that none of us noticed.

BEN

Pronouns also he/him.

[SFX: Wild West Outside ambience, crickets chirping]

MADDY

Fantastic, ok so as we begin this episode you are riding into town, into the town of Chapter and it's a very new frontier town, hoping to find the mansion of Jedediah Fenton who you are planning to turn into a vampire and hand over to a pack of werewolves who need the blood of a vampire to cure their lycanthropy so as you are trotting forward on your very dressagey horses.

[SFX: Hooves]

LYDIA

I think trotting forwards is putting it very strongly.

MADDY

Yeah.

LYDIA

I think it's one of those things you know like a trolley in the supermarket that is always sliding off to one side?

(Group laughter)

LOWRI

That's got like a jiggly wheel?

LYDIA

Yeah like all of our horses have that like slight angle.

HELEN

All of our horses have jiggly hooves.

(Group laughter)

LYDIA

They've got like, they've got to lean, they've got to lean and you're just constantly turning them back.

LYDIA

But it makes up for the coloured sparks of funny and uncanny magic spurting off them. **[SFX: Fantasy Sparkles]**

MADDY

Wonderful and as you are leaning forward into the town Miguel pipes up and says 'Oh, Clarabelle should we, should we tell them about the Pinkertons' and Clarabelle kind of sighs and goes 'ugh I guess so it's probably useful for them to know. Well since we are in this partnership now you should know that the Pinkerton Detective Agency is after us because we are obviously ostracised from several communities and we, the only way we can get food is to steal it and they caught us and they've been tracking us down across the, across the States but so.'

BEN

'For food?'

MADDY

'Yeah they've.'

BEN

'I assumed you'd done some kind of terrible murder.'

LYDIA

'Yeah like I mean if you introduce yourselves to most communities with hello we were planning to kidnap one of you, we failed, now will you kill someone on our behalf I can imagine that some ostracism might happen like that sounds a little more likely? Uh...than...oh, a loaf of bread from an orphan child.'

BEN

'Oh wait when you say stealing food do you mean in the kind of werewolf way of dragging somebody into the forest and disembowelling them?'

LYDIA

'Yeah is that, is that it?'

MADDY

‘Well we were stealing food and it was all going fine but then someone caught us and one of us’, and she kind of looks over at Kirsty with a deadly glare, ‘one of us got very angry and turned into a werewolf and started hurting people so that’s how the Pinkertons got us, we were trying to be ethical but it didn’t work out as is a theme for us apparently.’

LYDIA

‘What part of sneaking into our camp and asking us, and kidnaping one of us was ethical?’

BEN

‘I guess because we’re vampires and monsters and we.’

LYDIA

‘Oh I see.’

BEN

‘Don’t count.’

LYDIA

‘Oh I see yeah.’

LOWRI

‘We don’t count.’

LYDIA

‘Oh no I absolutely get it now you are unfairly ostracised we are monsters and therefore may be killed with impunity, I see how this goes.’

BEN

‘I think you have a lot of hatred for yourselves in your heart and you’ve decided to take it out on other supernatural kind of beings.’

LYDIA

‘Yeah I think there’s something more complex going on here than you may admit to.’

MADDY

‘Well we agreed to a pact to turn a vampire and drain and not to have some kind of debate about all these kind of complex, moralistic things so I think we should stick to our own lanes now.’

BEN

‘Hey now I weren’t debating I were just talking but all I’m saying is that the only ostracization you’re experiencing I think is from yourselves.’

MADDY

‘Well I will take that and consider it.’

LYDIA

‘And also from some of the people that you may have murdered.’

BEN

‘I mean from society and from the Pinkerton Detective Agency and admittedly from this group now that you’re open again but wish to try and kill us but yeah but mainly from yourselves.’

LYDIA

‘I would consider you ostracised but yeah it may start somewhere deep in your heart.’

HELEN

‘As I said.’

LYDIA

‘And then it continues through you hurting other people and occasionally threatening to kidnap them and disembowelling them and then it’s a legal matter of being ostracized.’

HELEN

‘It is a you problem!’

BEN

‘Very well put Squishy.’

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LYDIA

‘Very well put Squishy.’

BEN

‘Succinct as always.’

HELEN

‘(Laughter)’

BEN

(Laughter)

(Group Laughter)

LOWRI

Oh no. Dirty old man Squishy.

LYDIA

Oh no Squishy has a laugh.

HELEN

Yeah they do.

MADDY

I like to think that it has a very special spelling like in final fantasy games they always have a very particular spelling for each character that has a special laugh. I like to think Squishy's laugh is very, is particularly spelled.

[SFX: Wild West Town Outside, crickets chirping, people chatting, Ragtime piano]

Alright yes you manage to get into the town without any further incident and.

LYDIA

What kind of time is it just to like do we have long before the end of night?

MADDY

I think it's about 11pm, its not, yeah it's relatively early.

LYDIA

Ok, we were up early in the morning.

MADDY

Yeah you were, you were bright and early.

BEN

You were part of the.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LOWRI

It was a breakfast party.

BEN

We're rising great train robbers right, you know.

HELEN

We've got a hustle.

BEN

Yeah.

MADDY

For sure. And it's also, it's also winter I'll say so you've had plenty of, plenty of night time to get your business done.

LYDIA

Ok cool we've had a good like six hours.

BEN

For cowboys do you think they call it hustle and rustle?

HELEN

Ooh love it.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LOWRI

I think they do now.

BEN

A joke so clever it's not funny.

LOWRI

That's some merch – there.

MADDY

Ok yes so you are as you come onto the main street of the town of Chapter you can see that there is a saloon that is bustling with clientele, there is a Sheriff's office that has one little candle burning in the, in the window and you cannot see where the mansion is currently and so yeah what do you want to do?

LOWRI

How good do they smell?

(Group laughter)

MADDY

I think the clientele of the saloon smell pretty tasty, I think they are absolutely oozing with whisky and all kinds of spirits yeah.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LYDIA

They've been marinating.

HELEN

They're basically cocktails.

LYDIA

Ooooh.

MADDY

Yeah.

LOWRI

So Choo Choo is now thinking you know if their blood is like full of alcohol it might not taste like blood.

LYDIA

Oooh.

LOWRI

To Choo Choo it seems like quite an opportunity to chow down, as it were. So Choo is going to suggest 'Hey I, I think maybe we should you know no one knows where this mansion is right, maybe we should just go into this Tavern and yeah ask some people, maybe some stragglers sitting alone.'

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

BEN

'You want a drink? But I mean like a capital D kind of you know, you want a Drink?'

LYDIA

'A drink, drink. Wink.'

LYDIA

'You want a wink drink wink.'

BEN

'Real big drink.'

LOWRI

'I do, I do, I'm so hungry all I want, I just need a wink drink please can someone help me.'

BEN

'Ok this is starting to sound like something else I'm not really comfortable with this anymore.'

(Group Laughter)

LYDIA

'Oh no.'

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

HELEN

‘Come along young whipper snapper.’

LYDIA

‘It’s alright Cigar they just mean that they want to kill.’

BEN

‘Ok fine.’

LYDIA

‘It’s nothing strange.’

BEN

‘It was weird, it sounded fine when you said it but then when Choo Choo got on it I was like hang on a minute.’

LYDIA

‘The difference is in the charm.’

LOWRI

‘It was the desperation wasn’t it?’

BEN

‘Yeah I think it was actually, it gave a different tenor to it. Yeah I could go for a spot of old murder’ and I turn to the werewolves and go ‘Sorry about your ethics’.

(Group Laughter)

MADDY

Andrew, the gentleman with the little glasses pipes up and says ‘Well it would be prudent to get a lay of the land and find out some more information about the gentleman that we are robbing so why don’t we do some schmoozing around the saloon and find out if there’s any details that might help us in our little heist we’ve got going on.’

LYDIA

‘Alright does this saloon have a beer garden?’

BEN

‘It’s got more of a whisky yard.’

LYDIA

‘Maybe with a dark corner.’

(Group Laughter)

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LOWRI

Oh no.

(Group Laughter)

LYDIA

It's got a Gin Patio

BEN

Ooh, a fancy place, eh?

MADDY

Yeah there might be like a little balcony up on the first floor or the second floor since we're in America.

LYDIA

It's a Scotch.

BEN

Bonnet.

(Group Laughter)

LYDIA

It's a Scotch terrace. I was trying to remember what the word is for things.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

MADDY

Alright so do you enter into the saloon?

HELEN

Yeah.

BEN

I'm going to sneak around the back and I'm going to sort of take Choo Choo with, actually here's a question for Choo Choo have you been hunting before or like what's your track record like?

LOWRI

I think ok very new, I'm going to go for a few months old, I've been hunting a few times but I just collapsed every time I get someone, presumably I'm very strong and fast so it's quite easy but it just, I see the blood, I smell the blood, boom, gone.

HELEN

(Laughter) Oh you poor sweet thing.

LOWRI

So hungry. Are Cigar and Choo Choo going to go around the back?

BEN

I was going to suggest yes maybe, you need a buddy so it doesn't go south.

LOWRI

Hmm definitely.

MADDY

Let's see why don't you make me a couple of vampire rolls to see if you can be stealthy and one with the night and sneak around the back.

BEN

Ok I think one of the ways that I'm going to try and get close to somebody in order to do this in a subtle way is to start talking to them about scripture and kind of obviously presenting myself as you know I'm a preacher, I'm a man of God, like there's no possibility that I could be some kind of supernatural monstrosity that's ridiculous.

LOWRI

I just rolled a 5 so presumably I'm behind you in my silhouette, hands up, teeth out, terrified. Yet again, like –

(Group laughter)

BEN

I rolled a 3 and a 6, the 3 is bang on.

MADDY

Ooh wonderful. Would you like to ask me anything? I must answer truthfully.

BEN

I would, how can I help Choo Choo to drink without fainting?

MADDY

That is a very good question. I am going to say, I'm really struggling to think of something.

LOWRI

I had, I was going to ask if maybe Cigar, that's your name right? I keep going to say it and just having no confidence.

BEN

Yeah it's a completely average name.

LYDIA

It's a normal name.

LOWRI

It is a normal name, I'm sorry, such a normal name, it was so normal I just couldn't remember it. Maybe you could like start me off with like a blood squash like if you could mix it with something for me?

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

BEN

‘Oh sorry I thought you meant just like squash them really hard so it spurts everywhere.’

(Group laughter)

LOWRI

Just open my mouth and hope it goes in.

BEN

‘Yeah I could give you some kind of blood shandy, mix it with whisky.’

LYDIA

‘Blood shandy! Thanks.’

BEN

That is what a shandy is right, that’s definitely and water and whisky, that’s what you call a shandy, shut up.

MADDY

Yeah I will say absolutely if you mix the blood with some other liquid then that will ease the way for poor Choo Choo to start getting used to blood.

LOWRI

A strong smelling liquid that will mask the smell of the blood.

BEN

Cool.

LOWRI

I'm going to be hammered but.

MADDY

Yeah with your vampire cowboy success despite poor Choo Choo's absolute terror and lack of stealthiness you manage to corral a suitable victim and mix the blood with some alcohol and feed it to Choo Choo to see if that will work.

[SFX: Pouring and stirring drink]

LOWRI

So presumably Cigar has had to like, sorry this is not drawing a veil so we can cut this but has he had to suck it out and spit into her mouth?

BEN

Yeah like a mama bird.

LOWRI

Like a mama bird.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

BEN

A vampiric mama bird yes.

LOWRI

Are you my sire?

LYDIA

You can't just set up something elaborate with straws you know like.

BEN

Like a scooby doo, could we just scooby doo it.

LYDIA

You know like when you suck on the end of a, you put the pipe in the fuel thing and then you such on it and then but you don't need to drink the fuel it just starts a vacuum and then fuel comes out and you pour it into the, you could do that but with this person's jugular. **[SFX: Sucking through a straw]**

BEN

Just siphon off all of the.

LYDIA

Siphon off some blood into some Hooch.

LOWRI

Cigar if you're ok with this Ben I would like you to be my sire and I think that's why you're invested in me.

BEN

Yeah sure, fine, that works.

LOWRI

I'm like 'thanks, thanks dad.'

BEN

And I'm like 'good God come on.'

MADDY

Siring decisions are forever, a vampire is forever not just for Christmas. Alright. So how is Choo Choo feeling after having successfully ingested some blood?

LOWRI

'Oh so, so much better, so much stronger, ok right now I'm thinking clearly. Now I've got my train' wrecking or what am I?

LYDIA

Robbing.

LOWRI

‘Train robbing mind on. I mean this Jedediah right, Jedediah that’s the name?’

BEN

‘Oh woah you’ve got, ok fine alright. You just needed a good drink, yeah you’re very intense. Well the others are.’

LYDIA

‘Jedediah .’

BEN

‘Assumedly inside the saloon getting some information so if we kind of go back, see how they are doing and see if we know where the mansion is. Could you, could you look somewhere else I mean this is getting quite yeah.’

LOWRI

‘Oh sorry.’

BEN

‘Or maybe blink, just remember to blink. When you go in the saloon you’ve got to remember to blink, I know we don’t need to but people get really freaked out if we don’t.’

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LOWRI

‘Ok like how frequently, like once every, 1, 2, 3, 4, blink, 2, 3, 4, blink.’

(Group Laughter)

BEN

‘Try not to count or count inside your head and try not to make it so deliberate.’

LOWRI

‘Ok.’

BEN

‘Because it looks like somebody is blowing in your eyes every five seconds which is not normal.’

MADDY

‘Incredible alright yes you make your way back into the saloon and what are Squishy and Gunbo doing in the saloon while this has been going on?’

[SFX: Saloon interior; people chatting and Ragtime piano music]

LYDIA

Gunbo is charming people into giving information. I’ve just realised that basically because Gunbo has a vampireyness of 5 and all the charming things tend to be cowboy he will always fail.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

BEN

This might be a fail.

LYDIA

Hypnotising.

BEN

Yes.

LYDIA

Hey you miaow

BEN

It's a vampire thing, they love it.

LYDIA

Yeah it's true, I'm going.

MADDY

It depends whether you're going for being genuine and charming and having a sparkly personality or whether you're going for manipulative and sort of I don't really care about you but I just yeah.

LYDIA

No I think Gunbo thinks that he's the bees knees and like he is at best the wasps ankles you know like it's not.

(Laughter)

HELEN

Excellent name for a pub.

LYDIA

It's not great and so just hey you and it's just people shuffle away, he's got a very What We Do in the Shadows level of charm, you know, just not, it's not working except sometimes he magics them and it does work he's like 'hey you tell me where the mansion is miaow.'

(Group Laughter)

LYDIA

'You just want to tell me naturally don't you because I'm so cool' and sometimes it works because he's magic but he doesn't mean to be.

HELEN

Yeah.

MADDY

If you're asking about the mansion please give me a 2 D6 vampire role.

LYDIA

2 D6? I've got so many D6 folks.

HELEN

I will help out as well, I will also be asking about the mansion but Squishy is doing it by finding the nearest little group of, you know how like in any local pub there's like three or four old guys all sitting together, talking about, so immediately beelines towards them and starts griping about the old days.

(Laughter)

LYDIA

But unbeknownst to them he's talking about much older days.

HELEN

Much, much older and yet the complaints are very similar.

(Laughter)

LYDIA

'People these days don't know how to read and if they, but if they do learn how to read that will make them forget the ways of learning the old stuff by heart don't you think.'

HELEN

‘They read the wrong things.’

LYDIA

‘They don’t believe in the Gods of the old folk they don’t.’ I can’t remember what they, what they made Socrates [Unclear] but there’s a specific set of words isn’t there that like Plato has like ‘oh the young don’t respect the old and they don’t worship the right Gods and also they smell strange.’

(Laughter)

LYDIA

I rolled a 3 and a 5.

HELEN

Do I also roll 2 D6?

MADDY

Yes, yeah I’ll say because you’re ancient and you’re going for the ancient people then that gives you preparedness.

HELEN

Ancient people, the lesser known song by Pulp.

(Group Laughter)

MADDY AND HELEN

(Singing) I want to be like ancient people

LYDIA

I want to gripe like ancient people do, I want to grump like ancient people.

BEN

The video is just him going around a supermarket with his gran.

(Group laughter)

LYDIA

(Singing) I want a stick and I always do need the loo.

BEN

Yeah.

HELEN

Maddy am I rolling vampire or cowboy?

MADDY

Vampire so you are wanting to roll under your number.

HELEN

Good I rolled a 1 and a 3.

MADDY

Fabulous and what did you get Lyd sorry?

LYDIA

A 3 and a 5 so if I'm rolling vampire 1 is a crit and one is a success.

MADDY

Incredible so please feel free to ask me a question.

LYDIA

Oh the question is where is the mansion?

MADDY

Yes I was thinking it might be that. Yeah you absolutely managed to find the most talkative person in the saloon who is very happy to just jabber on about whatever they want and you get them onto the subject of Jedediah Fenton and they are like 'oh yeah he's a terrible man, he's awful, he's been working everyone to the bone.'

LYDIA

'Really that's irrelevant to us, that's something that, just tell me where he lives.'

MADDY

‘Oh sure yeah of course I can do that he lives just on the outskirts of town on the West, directly West from here and next to the, next to the cattle ranch.’ So from the directions you can very clearly work out how to get there and yeah you also see behind the bar is this very well dressed gentleman in a waistcoat and as you hear him responding to customers and giving them drinks you can tell that he has a very English accent which is unusual in this part of the world.

LYDIA

‘He’s probably got one of those names like Phil or John.’

HELEN

Dave.

LYDIA

‘Ooh so exotic.’

MADDY

Yeah he kind of looks over at you and says ‘I wonder what you might be wanting Jedediah Fenton’s address for?’

LYDIA

‘Oh I just always like to seek out the most interesting folk in town. It’s useful when you’re in a new place to get the lay of the land and I have to say you yourself look pretty interesting sir, how long have you lived here?’

MADDY

‘Oh I’m a relatively recent transplant you might say to this place, I travel around quite a lot but.’

LYDIA

‘And yet you found yourself a job here?’

MADDY

‘Yes the owner of this fine saloon was looking for a quick replacement at short notice and I offered my services.’

LYDIA

‘How convenient.’

MADDY

‘I have experience at the finest bars, pubs and of course saloons across the world.’

LYDIA

‘Oh across the world, oh my aren’t you someone that could just sweep a sweet lad off his feet.’

MADDY

‘Well perhaps.’

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LYDIA

‘Ooh.’

MADDY

‘Perhaps.’

LYDIA

‘Where is the most beautiful pub that you have ever been?’

MADDY

‘I have to say that there was a charming place in Witherington on Sea.’

LYDIA

‘Oh it sounds so exotic.’

MADDY

‘It was, it was precisely so.’

LYDIA

‘So fancy.’

BEN

You said Stevenage.

(Group Laughter)

MADDY

And meanwhile how is Squishy getting on with the ancient folks?

HELEN

Well you tell me, I feel like they are getting on really well.

MADDY

Yeah absolutely.

HELEN

But I would like them to be getting on well so that they can get the information they want though they would probably ask a different question.

MADDY

Yeah.

HELEN

Instead of where is the mansion they might ask, they might just ask like what the building is like to see if there's like any like back passages and stuff like that and so they will be asking about the history of the place and be like oh did new residents ruin it and did they add, did they mess up the East Wing and stuff like that.

MADDY

Yeah the older folks are very willing to trash talk this very nouveau riche mansion and they're like 'oh yeah, yeah, they only built it like six months ago and it's just a monstrosity on the landscape, this whole town is only two years old but six months that's just, that's just too young for my liking it's and it's so fancy it's got like a servant's entrance round the back that any folks who aren't deemed fancy enough have to go through and yeah it has got several storeys, it has got like three floors then there's a balcony on the top floor where the bedroom is and yeah it's just a monstrosity on the landscape.'

LOWRI

I'd like to say that Choo Choo has like entered and is sitting next to you to listen to this as well because he's very invested in the plan, blinking very deliberately and smiling at Cigar every time they remember like.

HELEN

Squishy does not notice, Squishy is just like.

LYDIA

Let's go round the back yeah.

HELEN

Squishy is just like 'ah yes this is my whipper snapper of a friend' and will then communicate the stuff about the mansion.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LOWRI

1, 2, 3, 4, blink.

(Group Laughter)

BEN

I'm just at the bar being like 'inside your head Choo Choo, inside your head.'

(Group Laughter)

LOWRI

Have we got really good hearing as well, I heard you whisper that and I'm like 'oh God damn it, sorry.'

MADDY

And on that note I believe it is time for us to take a short break, we will be right back.

[BREAK]

[SFX: Saloon interior; people chatting and Ragtime piano music]

MADDY

And we're back. Ok you have gathered some information at the saloon from a talkative person and from some elderly gents. What is your next move?

LYDIA

‘Well I’m just going to stay here, this is rather comfortable, tell me more about your life I mean it sounds so adventurous just travelling around serving drinks, meeting people.’

MADDY

‘Well I’m afraid that if I told you all the things that I’ve seen you wouldn’t believe it.’

LYDIA

‘Oh you’d be surprised what I’d believe, I’m extremely gullible.’

BEN

(Laughter) What a pick up line!

MADDY

‘Well that’s good to know but I see that your friends are gathering over there so you may want to return to them post haste.’

LOWRI

Choo Choo is looking at you quite intensely blinking very regularly in Morse Code.

LYDIA

‘Oh well I hope that I see you later.’

MADDY

‘Well I’m sure you will, I’m sure you will.’

LYDIA

‘Ooh right I, phew, is it hot in here or is it just me? I’d better sayonara, later.’

MADDY

‘Very well I am not sure how to respond to that but I wish you a good evening.’

BEN

That guy is a thousand percent a Frankenstein.

LYDIA

Yeah, yeah a Frankenstein no that’s a Pinkerton.

BEN

Just a whole Frankenstein, oh a Pinkerton, oh ok I was just thinking, hmm ok Pinkenstein.

LYDIA

Pinkenstein that was it.

BEN

The supernatural Detective Agency.

LYDIA

I thought there was, yeah there was definitely a Detective Agency right like.
Like a thousand percent. I know that but Gunbo, Gunbo only knows 'miaow.'

(Group Laughter)

HELEN

He speaks cat.

LYDIA

He does it's one of his vampire powers.

BEN

Ah.

HELEN

Ah.

LYDIA

Unfortunately he's allergic.

BEN

Oh no.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

HELEN

To himself.

LYDIA

So all he can say please stay away.

(Group Laughter)

HELEN

So do we regroup?

MADDY

Yes absolutely as you gather up what would you like to discuss?

LOWRI

Choo Choo is quite enthused now because 'Jedediah is our train and we are going to.'

LYDIA

Rob.

LOWRI

'Rob that train.'

LYDIA

‘Well ok fortunately I know where the mansion is now. ‘

BEN

‘Yeah and also Choo Choo we are going to turn that train into a vampire and let some werewolves drain that train of all of its blood so I’m not sure how well you, I like the enthusiasm.’

LOWRI

‘Hang on wouldn’t that make him my brother?’

BEN

‘Well.’

HELEN

‘Technically your son but let’s not quibble over details.’

BEN

‘Well hang on.

HELEN

‘There is an entrance at the back.’

BEN

‘I think maybe we don’t have Choo Choo turn in Jedediah because that might cause, from the look on her face that might cause some kind of strife.’

LOWRI

‘Gone a little green.’

HELEN

‘Fine I’ll do it like I do all the difficult things around here.’

LYDIA

‘I don’t know I do quite a lot of difficult things and I enjoy it.’

BEN

Ok and hang on a minute you just had a.’

LYDIA

‘Like building that shed, I built that shed, it was difficult but it was, I felt a great sense of achievement after doing it.’

BEN

‘That’s a mighty fine shed.’

LYDIA

‘It is.’

BEN

‘You built the horse paddock as well.’

LYDIA

‘Yeah. I think the placement might have been a little bit off, I have regrets now but.’

BEN

‘Yeah well we can’t see every eventuality so you did a good job.’

LYDIA

‘Thank you yeah don’t know what you thought I was saying, honestly.’

BEN

‘What?’

LYDIA

‘Filthy mind!’

BEN

‘No I could have said seen to Horse Paddock and then that would have implied two things but no I mean you literally built the horse paddock.’

LYDIA

‘I did, I did.’

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

BEN

‘And also I’ve seen how you looked at Horse Paddock so.’

HELEN

‘Are we going to get this gold or not young scallywags?’

BEN

‘Ok, ok we’re going.’

HELEN

(Laughter).

MADDY

You head outside.

LYDIA

Helen content warnings for innuendo?

BEN

At this point it’s just endo I think.

HELEN

It’s not even going to be, it’s going to be innuendo throughout.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

(Group Laughter)

HELEN

As we leave Squishy Chewy says ‘as the cowboys say, yo ho!’

(Group Laughter)

MADDY

And the saloon keeper from the back behind the bar goes ‘indeed they do my dear, indeed they do.’

(Group laughter)

HELEN

Cowboys are merely pirates of the land.

MADDY

For sure indeed.

BEN

Wow it really makes you think.

(Group Laughter)

HELEN

It does.

MADDY

You head outside of the saloon and see that the werewolves are standing very awkwardly just outside and.

[SFX: Saloon Exterior, crickets chirping, people chatting, ragtime piano music]

BEN

‘See no wonder you end up ostracised, you’re ostracising yourself you could have just gone in for a nice drink.’

LYDIA

‘Just go to the party.’

LOWRI

‘Go in, mingle.’

LYDIA

‘No one was ostracising you, you just didn’t turn up.’

BEN

‘You’re just a person, you don’t even have the ever present predator’s hunger that we have to deal with, you can just go in and have a nice time.’

LOWRI

‘So ever present.’

(Group Laughter)

LOWRI

Blink.

MADDY

‘Yeah I would like to refrain from the constant needling at our status as werewolves and yeah alright that’s fine’ and Kirsty is just clutching the shoulder wound from the silver knife from earlier and it’s just like ‘I’m trying so hard not to transform right now, I’m trying so hard.’

BEN

‘Oh yeah just come on try it, let’s go another round, let’s see how that works out for you.’

MADDY

Miguel just kind of gently pats Kirsty on the shoulder and says ‘no, not the time, not the time] and.

BEN

‘Yeah turn into a big wolf in the middle of town that will be an amazing idea.’

[SFX: Mansion Exterior, crickets chirping and Fountain water]

MADDY

Alright so you make your way following the directions that you found in the saloon towards the mansion and it is indeed as the elderly gentleman said a nouveau riche monstrosity, it has all sorts of weird columns and.

LYDIA

‘Nouveau gothic I love it.’

MADDY

Strange flourishes and architectural styles that really don’t go together it’s just.

LOWRI

Ooh gargoyles.

MADDY

Yes.

BEN

‘Man this place is really Edgar Allan no.’

(Group Laughter)

LYDIA

Wahay!

BEN

I was proud of that when I thought of that one I was like yeah.

(Group Laughter)

LYDIA

This house is designed like Gunbo dresses.

MADDY

Yeah anything fancy you just slap it on and hope for the best.

LYDIA

'Is it fancy, it is spooky, I'll have it.'

MADDY

And as you know there is a service entrance round the back and there is a balcony up on the top floor which leads into the bedroom.

BEN

Can at least one of us do a big vampire leap up to the balcony?

LYDIA

Boing.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

BEN

Yeah you do that where it's weird and they well because they are literally but the way that vampires jump when it's just oh there are on wires.

LOWRI

I would like to crawl up the wall to the balcony.

BEN

Ooh that's great.

HELEN

That would be very cool. I think Squishy should jump because I think.

LYDIA

Like Yoda where you're like old and then you're just boing.

HELEN

Exactly.

LYDIA

Incredible.

MADDY

Right whoever is making some kind of acrobatic feat please roll me a vampire check.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

HELEN

So we need to be under the number, yeah?

LYDIA

That includes Choo Choo.

MADDY

Yes.

LOWRI

Scaling the walls.

HELEN

(Gasp) Oh I rolled a 6, I failed.

(Group Laughter)

HELEN

Oh no. The youngest of the oldest.

MADDY

Oh yeah, yeah. I think what happens there is that Choo Choo is very bravely trying to climb up the wall, not doing a great job of it [**SFX: Scaling the wall**] and then Squishy makes a massive leap [**SFX: Leap with a whoosh**] and misses

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

the balcony and just lands directly on Choo Choo's head **[SFX: Thud]** and both of them crash down onto the ground **[SFX: Loud thud]** and I think with that spectacular of a failure you make a significant noise and a servant girl just opens the door **[SFX: Door opening]** and peeks out to see there's so many people in the front yard of this mansion and she's like 'Oh! What the higgins are you doing here, the master will not be pleased to see people trespassing.'

LYDIA

I try and hypnotise the child. Shhh but magic.

MADDY

Alright give me a vampire roll please and I will say you can do 2 D6 for.

LYDIA

Ooh ok cool. Nice. Nice, nice, nice.

MADDY

Because you're charming the person.

LYDIA

Ooh I am yes, 3 and 2 both of which are under my vampire.

MADDY

Fantastic ok.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LYDIA

She's double hypnotised.

BEN

Sorry one quick thing is this person a literal child?

MADDY

No she's probably about 19.

LYDIA

Oh ok.

BEN

Ok.

MADDY

Yeah she kind of sways on the spot for a second and goes.

LYDIA

Is she hypnotised enough to do what I say?

MADDY

Yeah I think so.

LYDIA

‘Hey how about you go round and open the servant’s entrance for us?’

MADDY

‘Alright sure I can do that’ and she sort of very slowly ambles behind the building and leads you toward the servant entrance, takes out a chunky key, unlocks it and the way is open to you. **[SFX: Unlocking door]**

LYDIA

‘Right how about you have a nice nap.’

MADDY

‘Oh.’

LYDIA

‘Wherever it is you usually have naps.’

MADDY

‘Oh I’m not allowed to nap. But if I were to have a.’

LYDIA

‘You should definitely have a nap.’

MADDY

‘If I were to have a nap I would have it in the dog’s bed.’

LYDIA

‘Well that sounds, it could be adorable or sad, is it because you really like the dog, are you friends?’

MADDY

‘We’re not allowed proper beds so I have to share with the dog.’

LYDIA

‘Oh good Lord I mean how about, have you ever thought of joining a gang?’

LOWRI

‘I thought you were going to say Union!’

LYDIA

‘It’s probably better, I mean gangs can be more effective.’

MADDY

‘I hadn’t considered it, my mama said that gangs were trouble.’

LYDIA

‘Well I mean but is it not trouble to not have a bed to sleep in, that sounds, that sounds like trouble to me, just like structural trouble you know, really that is the sort of thing that you should cause trouble about.’

MADDY

‘Yeah I see what you’re saying. Yeah I could join a gang.’

(Group Laughter)

BEN

‘Ok so we turning her into a vampire or a werewolf?’

LYDIA

‘No she’s a friend, my little friend, I’m going to look after her and build her a nice bed.’

BEN

‘I mean ok whatever floats your boat.’

LYDIA

‘Well I also like to build boats, I’ve decided that’s part of my character now, it can’t just be guns and charm, I’ve also got hobbies.’

BEN

‘Well you’ve always said you were very skilled with wood so.’

(Group Laughter)

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

HELEN

Very good.

LYDIA

‘Yeah well that’s the point of a double entendre it’s supposed to have two meanings.’

BEN

‘Boats and beds of course yeah.’

LOWRI

‘Gunbo?’

LYDIA

‘Yeah?’

LOWRI

‘Do we not need her to invite us in?’

LYDIA

‘Oh yeah. Girl, could you invite us in?’

MADDY

‘Oh yeah sure please all of you come in.’

LOWRI

‘Great job.’

[SFX: Mansion Interior]

MADDY

And you all enter into the mansion, it is the servant’s quarters which are considerably less fancy than the exterior. It seems that as little money as possible has been spent in outfitting this part of the house. There’s a room that just has several dogs beds in it and you go past the kitchen which at least has enough equipment to produce the fanciest of meals but in conditions that are not necessarily ideal for the workers inside and.

BEN

Sorry while we’re going through the kitchen I would like to pick up a big knife because I’ve only established I have a gun which is very loud.

MADDY

Yes you can absolutely have a nice hefty kitchen knife and so you make your way further through the servant’s quarters and come upon a pair of footman who are just suddenly very confused to see a hoard of people entering the mansion being led by this servant woman.

LYDIA

‘We are.’

LOWRI

Blink.

LYDIA

‘Inspectors for working conditions and we have heard that you have some doozies of complaints. Would you like to tell us so that we could note them down?’

MADDY

Could you please either do me a cowboy roll or a vampire roll depending on how you’re going about it to try and persuade these people and add an extra die for charming.

LYDIA

Oh ok cool. Ooh a 3 and a 1 there you go.

MADDY

Fabulous ok so James and Edward they look to each other and say.

BEN and LYDIA

Weird names!

MADDY

‘Actually you know I’m very glad that you’ve come because we’ve been having a terrible time and there’s no one we can complain to because the master just

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

doesn't listen to anything we say and threatens to fire us if we so much as say a peep so yeah this is really great news thank you so much for coming and yeah thank you Constance for bringing in these fine folks, this is, this is a wonderful day for us here. I do want to know why you were coming in at like half eleven at night.'

BEN

'Surprise inspection and a follow up question have you ever considered joining a gang?'

(Group Laughter)

HELEN

Or a worker's union?

LOWRI

Blink.

(Group Laughter)

I'm not allowed to talk to people.

MADDY

'Well Edward I've never, have you ever considered joining a gang or a Union?'

'No James no I haven't this is quite a proposition, you do say that there is safety in numbers, do you not?'

BEN

‘Yeah well say Constance why don’t you talk to these nice gentleman about the new gang prospects while we go and have a nice conversation to Mr Jedediah , talk to him about these working conditions that we are inspecting.’

MADDY

‘Oh of course I’m sure that I can do a fine job of explaining our own working conditions to my colleagues who I work with.’

BEN

‘No I was talking about the gang thing not the.’

MADDY

‘Oh the gang thing, alright.’

LYDIA

‘Just a Union that’s what you were calling it Squishy right it’s like a gang but of workers?’

HELEN

‘Yes a worker’s Union.’

BEN

‘I thought they were joining us?’

LYDIA

‘I mean they can join us but there’s now quite a lot of them.’

BEN

‘But are we a Union?’

LYDIA

‘We could be a Union.’

BEN

‘I don’t know what a Union is.’

LYDIA

‘I think it’s ethical.’

BEN

‘So some kind of werewolf stuff?’

LYDIA

‘I don’t know.’

HELEN

‘No it is not a werewolf thing. A union is where lots of people come together to beat up their boss.’

BEN

‘Oh well why don’t you join the union and come with us?’

(Group Laughter)

MADDY

So Constance takes James and Edward off to the side to discuss with them the benefits of unions. She doesn’t really know much about unions so she’s just kind of making it up on the spot.

BEN

Yeah I mean hey nor do we like honestly.

(Group Laughter)

MADDY

And so you have free reign to go into the main part of the house.

LYDIA

Oh I’d rather go up the back servant’s entrance into the master bedroom, no bumping into anyone.

BEN

That’s a very good point yes with this house is there like a warren of corridors for unseen helpers versus the nice bits of the house or?

MADDY

Yeah I will say that there is a, there is a back staircase that you can go up and as you make your way I would like everyone to make a vampire roll to see if you can be stealthy about it.

BEN

At this point I would like to claim prepared given that we have actually snuck our way in and are in here sort of with permission of the individuals who use it.

MADDY

Yeah go for it yeah. Everyone can roll 2 D6.

HELEN

Alright then. I rolled a 3 and a 4.

LOWRI

I also got a 3 and a 4.

BEN

Oh thank goodness, yeah I got a 5 and a 4 so I did roll over cowboy.

LOWRI

It's vampire so you're rolling under your number.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

BEN

Oh no I failed.

HELEN

Oh no.

LOWRI

So did I.

HELEN

I didn't.

LYDIA

I did great I got a crit.

MADDY

Oh well you can ask me something if you like?

BEN

Is it why do my friends suck so bad?

LOWRI

It's because they're vampires!

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LYDIA

I suppose it's is Jedediah in bed?

MADDY

Yes he is in bed.

LYDIA

Useful we can sneak up, cool, cool, cool. Well unless you've woken him up with your non-sneakiness.

BEN

Clattering about.

MADDY

So as you make your way up the servant staircase you make your way onto the top floor but as you open the door to the top floor I will say that both Choo Choo and Cigar at once knock over different vases simultaneously. **[SFX: Creaking staircase, door opening; Top Floor, ticking clock]**

(Group Laughter)

MADDY

And so there is an almighty clatter and crash as these beautiful vases or vases since we're in America are destroyed. **[SFX: Shattering vases]**

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LOWRI

‘Oh no the vases.’

BEN

‘Gosh damn vases.’

LYDIA

Oh no you sound so French!

(Group Laughter)

MADDY

And you hear a scream of a woman coming from one of the rooms and she rushes out, **[SFX: Door opening, steps with fabric rustling]** it is a very fancy looking lady with a big bustly dress who has clearly been up late writing because she has got ink stains on her hands and she cries out ‘What on earth are you doing in my house? My husband Jedediah will hear about this.’

HELEN

Oh dear.

LYDIA

‘Art appreciation?’

MADDY

‘Are you appreciating art by destroying it?’

LYDIA

‘It’s the new fangled way, don’t you know what they’re doing out in the fanciest bits of Paris?’

MADDY

‘I don’t care what’s happening, in Paris, I only care what’s happening in my own front yard and clearly there are all sorts of strangers mucking about.’

LYDIA

Gunbo looks panicked at the others.

LOWRI

Choo Choo is just focusing on blinking because we’re in front of a human now.

BEN

‘Hey Choo Choo?’

LOWRI

‘Yes.’

BEN

‘Get her.’

LOWRI

‘You think I’m ready?’

BEN

‘Yep.’

LOWRI

‘Ok. Choo Choo is going to just obey obviously and launch at this woman’s neck.’

MADDY

Alright give me a vampire roll please.

LYDIA

Oh no.

BEN

I would like to claim helping Choo Choo.

MADDY

Sweet yeah.

BEN

As her sire.

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

LOWRI

Are you coaching me through it?

BEN

Yes.

MADDY

You can absolutely, yeah you can absolutely add a die to Choo Choo's roll by helping.

LOWRI

I got a 6 first but then I got a 1.

LYDIA

Yay!

LOWRI

Oh my gosh I'm going to kill my first person.

EVERYONE

(Cheering.)

MADDY

Alright please describe to me how you murder this innocent woman?

LOWRI

Oh no.

MADDY

Well. She's rich, it's fine.

LYDIA

I mean you're just going to eat the rich, isn't this what we've all been talking about, isn't it right to live your values?

LOWRI

(Overlapping) Yeah. Fine. She's a billionaire, yeah? Quite. Absolutely so taking courage and self-belief from her sire Cigar.

BEN

Very normal name!

LOWRI

Choo Choo starts right, was that her surname, has a strong start, launches herself teeth first at the jugular of this woman. There's a moment where the smell hits her and she feels that she might go but she just focuses on how proud she is going to make Cigar if she does this and.

BEN

'They grow up so fast.'

LOWRI

Yeah I'm trying to make it not rude, just sucks the life out of her. **[SFX: Sinking teeth in]**

MADDY

Wonderful yeah the wonderful life giving blood flows into your mouth and gives you sustenance like that you've never experienced before and as this woman.

LOWRI

Oh my gosh Choo Choo does like a victory laugh like up around the ceiling.
[SFX: Running]

(Group Laughter)

LOWRI

'And back down, I feel so good, it was pure, it wasn't diluted, it was all, I did it!'
Quite loud.

LYDIA

Like a puppy running around on the ceiling.

BEN

Yeah.

MADDY

And so at this point you hear a kind of grumbling sound coming from behind a door and very slowly some hefty footsteps start [**SFX: Slow heavy footsteps**] to make their way towards you and the door opens [**SFX: Door kicked open**] and you see this absolutely hulking, muscular man but with the most, with the most pathetic little face, with terrible side burns that you've ever seen and at this point we are going to end the episode there. So thank you so much to listening to Chapter and Multiverse and our Vampire Cowboys game. I would like to ask each of our players where we can find them on the internet and if they have anything to plug, starting with Lowri?

LOWRI

I am on Twitter @LowriTweets and I guess I should also plug our other Rusty Quill show which is Enthusiasm which is just Helen talking to a variety of lovely guests about wonderful, exciting topics.

MADDY

Fantastic, and Helen?

HELEN

You can indeed find me on Twitter @Alecto101, that is A-L-E-C-T-O-1-0-1 and yes listen to Enthusiasm it's great.

HELEN

Brilliant, and Lydia?

LYDIA

You can find me on Twitter @LydNicholas and on Twitch you can find my chickens urbanhooks.

MADDY

Fab, and Ben?

BEN

I stream every Sunday with my brother on twitch.tv/thebrothersmeredith.

MADDY

Thank you once again for listening and we hope to see you next time on Chapter and Multiverse but until then from all of us in the space between worlds, goodbye.

EVERYONE

Goodbye!

[Show Theme - Outro]

THE ETERNAL TAVERN KEEPER

Chapter and Multiverse is a podcast distributed by Rusty Quill and licensed under a creative commons attribution, non-commercial share alike 4.0 international license. It is directed by Maddy Searle and produced by Natasha Johnston with Executive Producers Alexander J Newall and April Sumner. The Eternal Tavern Keeper was played by Karim Kronfli. This episode

CHAP Vampire Cowboys 2 – The Saloon

was edited by Elizabeth Moffatt, Maddy Searle and Cathy Rinella with music by Nico Vettese. Thank you for listening.